

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 9-14 are pending in this application. claims 2-5 were previously withdrawn from consideration. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 10 are amended; and claims 13 and 14 are added.

Claims 13 and 14 as added relate to a slope of the wall of a bank as shown in Figs. 6-8.

I. THE CLAIMS SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

The Office Action rejects claims 9 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not described in the specification. Specifically, the Office Action asserts that claims 9 and 12 and Figures 1-8 do not disclose "rounded corners in the film formation region." This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 9 recites "the wall of the bank has rounded corners and defines the film formation regions with rounded corners." This recited claim feature is fully supported by the specification. For example, the specification at page 5, lines 26-28, recites "The shape of these banks, that is, the open shape of the pixels, may be any of a circle, an ellipse, a rectangle or a stripe. Since the ink composition has a surface tension, the corners of the rectangle are preferably rounded." Furthermore, the specification at page 7, lines 9-14, points to a bank having a diameter and a certain height, further lending support to the banks having rounded corners.

Claim 12 recites "the shapes of the first and second film formation regions have rounded corners." Support for this recited feature is found in the specification. For example, the specification at page 6, lines 14-20, discloses how the film formation region of the light emitting layer 18 covers the film formation region of the whole injection/transportation layer 16 within the bank, as shown in Figure 6. Thus, the bank is disclosed as having an open shape for the pixels, the open shape being any of a circle, an ellipse, a rectangle or a stripe,

the corners of the rectangle preferably being rounded. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter featured in claims 9 and 12 are fully supported by the specification. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

II. THE CLAIMS DEFINE PATENTABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 6 and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,384,529 to Tang et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Tang et al. does not teach, disclose or suggest "a hole injection/transportation layer having a concave surface; a light emitting layer disposed above the hole injection/transportation layer and having a concave surface," as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 10.

Instead, Tang et al. merely discloses the layer 60 (or sub-layers thereof) can be formed by conventional vapor phase deposition," as recited at col. 6, lines 39-40. Tang et al. generally discloses vapor deposition using a vapor stream 83 and 93 directed over an area at a given angle (col. 8, lines 22-29; and Figures 11 and 12). The recited features having a concave surface is not disclosed or suggested by Tang et al.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 10 are patentable over the applied references. The dependent claims are likewise patentable over the applied references for at least the reasons discussed as well as for the additional features they recite. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

III. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-6 and 9-14 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:RJK/mdw
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